**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT**

**7.30PM ON THURSDAY 2nd AUGUST 2018 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councilors M Webberley, P Acton, K Ridout, R McNamara, R P Arron, ROW Officer G Rains; and the clerk D Green; in addition, there were 2 members of the public in attendance.

**299. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Oakley, Kennard, Jespersen

**300. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

**301. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** the minutes of the meeting held on 5st July 2018 were approved.

**302. MATTERS ARISING:** Discussed per agenda items below

**303. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

Graham Rains raised the issue of replacement signage at the Knapps, and queried whether a replacement sign should be located in a hedge that cannot be seen, but could be re-located on a verge. He has spoken to a neighbour who is prepared to do the work of installing the new sign, if the materials are supplied by DCC. Graham Rains will provide the volunteer’s details to the clerk.

**304. COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** None received

**305. FOOTPATHS:**

**Footpaths officer report:** Graham Rains reported that Stuart Caldwell had failed to meet to him to conduct some clearing work at Lanchards Lane. As a consequence, Graham had done virtually all the clearance work himself. There is a small amount remaining which Stuart Caldwell has agreed to undertake. There is also a missing footpath sign which has been reported.

The reply to clerk from Dilys Gartside of Okeford Fitzpaine Parish Council., concerning the A357 crossing to the Trailway was discussed. It was noted that Dilys was not optimistic about action being taken by DCC even though there is a clear case for the necessity of this work. Graham reported that the invitation for volunteers from the village was unlikely to generate much response.

**306 ROADS:**

**Chairman’s letter**

The Chairman reported that, following his letter, he was pleased to see that Deborah Croney and DCC were at last taking an interest in discussing future rounds of road closures with the village. He asked if anyone had any further reports of incorrect and confusing signage to advise him. The view was expressed that the exclusion of Shillingstone in any consultation regarding the Haywards Lane closure to Child Okeford was unacceptable. It was also said that the alteration of the closure period of the A357 from 14 days to 2 days without any word of apology was very poor. The matter of the Durweston Bridge closure next year was briefly discussed. The view was expressed that a temporary crossing should be put into place, a ‘Bailey bridge’ or similar. Graham Rains reported that he understood from residents in Child Okeford that there was an agreement that traffic lights would be installed some 6 weeks after work commenced. The Chairman queried whether the closure of Station Road between Homefield and Duck St actualy meant that access to Homefield was not possible.

**Parking at the Cross**

Cllr McNamara raised the issue of whether laybys could be turned into parking zones. Apparently there is a precedent of one village in Somerset where this has been permitted. The Chairman expressed the view that is was very unlikely that lines, zones or anything else would be permitted, given that it was highly unlikely that any regulations would be enforced. Cllr McNamara observed that the parking situation had become very difficult now that 3 houses had been built across the road from her home.

Clerk to raise the matter with Cllr Jespersen.

**307. PLANNING**

No decisions re Pear Tree Cottage, Oakdale or Japonica Cottage.

Application reference 2/2018/0695/LBC was discussed. This involves the conversion of an existing outbuilding to form self-contained living accommodation, and to erect a single storey extension and plant room/shed and carry out associated internal and external alterations, at Cobbles Blandford Road Shillingstone DT11 0SF.

George Marshall, owner of the adjoining property Wistaria Cottage, explained that he had reached agreement with the owner of The Cobbles in relation to 4 aspects of the application, and has sent Chris Poad, NDDC planning officer, an email in confirmation of this:

1) The window on the south side eat is to either remain frosted or be replaced with frosted glass

2) The two roof fan lights will be stationary and flat to the roof and no larger than two feet square

3) All services including extractor fans will be on the west side of the building

4) the extension to the building and the swimming pool generator line will not interfere with the height and width of the hedge which marks the boundary line.

Providing all of these conditions are met, George Marshall said that he would with withdraw his objection to the proposal. The council had no objection to these proposals or the scheme plan overall.

**308. FINANCES:**

1. **These cheques and payments were approved:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Number** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| Debit Card | £ 187.20 | Grassmats.co.uk | Mats for repairs |
| S/O | £ 333.00 | Cricket Club | Rec mowing |
| 2185 | £ 399.12 | B & S Chains | Chains & Seats for Rec Play |
| 2186 | £ 835.50 | Hags-Smp Ltd | Parts for Play repairs |
| 2187 | £ 1,003.22 | Elite Playground Inspections | Rec & W Pits Play repair work |
| 2188 | £ 583.16 | David Green | July pay |
| 2189 | £ 116.50 | David Green | Expenses |
| 2190 | £ 48.75 | I K Services | Litterpick |
| 2191 | £ 40.00 | Richard Watts | Hedgecutting |

1. **Business Bank Accounts**

The clerk advised that the Scottish Widows account had been closed and the funds transferred to the LLoyds current account. The processing of opening two Nationwide accounts was underway.

**iii) To consider applications to carry out works to trees in the conservation area received before the meeting:**

None

**309. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK:**

1. **Play areas**

**Whitepits –** the clerk advised that Redlynch Leisure cannot do the work until 2nd week of September, due to a very busy school programme. A sign has been fixed to the swings to notifying users.

**Recreation Ground –** the clerk advised that Steven Day has done some excellent work in relation to the remedials at the Rec. Roundabout & Jeep repaired, all fixings in the play tower. Area has been weeding & rotavated by Phil Tulk and is looking a lot better. Additional bark may be required, on hold for now. Outstanding is the grass matting to the Cableway area, ground too hard at present, will have to wait until autumn.

**iii) Pavilion:**

1. **Pavilion refurbishment proposal progress**

The clerk advised that he had received quotes received for WC & Shower area renovation, but that there was a vast variation in quote values:

1. Commercial Washrooms, £17 k, short on detail & specification.
2. Dorset Wet Rooms £ 4750 plus VAT for W.C’s & Showers, and £ 2666.67 plus VAT for Flooring

Awaiting quote from M J HPPS Limited, though very impressed with Mike Pearson’s (M J HPPS) attention to detail. The council expressed the view that the lower quote presently received was the more realistic, and a package of the quotes would be discussed with Clive Nelson with a view to securing funding.

**310. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Trailway diversion proposal document was discussed, it was noted by the Council that this shows acceptance of all proposals raised at the meeting in June, including those raised by the Council in relation to the installation of a south side safety fence & hedging.

The Chairman had received copies of a newsletter describing proposals for a ‘Dorset National Park’. The suggestion is that the creation of a National Park will bring social, economic and environmental benefits to Dorset, but chiefly additional funding from central government. Example given of South Downs which attracted £100 million in the first 5 years of its creation. It is understood that Shillingstone actually falls outside the area

designated for the National Park, which appears to have its boundary at Sturminster Newton.

The clerk reported receiving an email from Richard Angell regarding the siting of a fence in the Whitepits Development area, which queried whether this meant that the area up to the boundary fence would be developed. The Council decided that this was not a matter where it could or should give an opinion, and this would be referred to North Dorset District Council Planning.

Mike Powell has suggested by email that the Council consider ordering a quality wreath for Remembrance Day, given the significance of this year being 100 years since the end of the Great War. The chairman felt that the Council should actually encourage other entities to also provide wreaths for this occasion, because invariably the only wreath laid at the War Memorial was the one given by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the clerk would write to The Women’s Institute, The Seniors, and The Shillingstone School inviting them to also provide wreaths.

**311. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

**312. NEXT MEETING:** This will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th September 2018 at the Church Centre. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.37 p.m.